CLAIMS

I Claim:

1. A heating system for a lip rolling machine comprising:

a heat source set at an initial position and having a housing with an open exit end directed toward a container area;

an air source coupled to the heat source; and

wherein a supply of air from the air source is communicated to the heat source and heated to a temperature before being discharged from the exit end toward the container area.

2. The heating system of Claim 1, wherein the heat source is capable of being removed from the initial position to a safety position.

3. The heating system of Claim 2, wherein the heat source is removed from the initial position to a safety position automatically in response to a signal.

4. The heating system of Claim 3, wherein the signal is generated in response to a temperature sensor.

5. The heating system of Claim 3, wherein the signal is generated in response to a system error.

6. The heating system of Claim 1, further comprising a mechanism for diverting the heated air from the container area.

7. The heating system of Claim 6, wherein the mechanism for diverting the supply of heated air comprises an adjustable plenum.

8. The heating system of Claim 6, wherein the mechanism for diverting the supply of heated air comprises a cylinder for removing the heat source from the initial position.

9. The heating system of Claim 1, wherein the heat source is removable from the initial position.

10. The heating system of Claim 1, further comprising a reciprocating mechanism attached to the heat source, wherein the reciprocating mechanism moves the heat source between the initial position and a safety position.

11. The heating system of Claim 1, further comprising a mechanism for directing nested containers through the heat source.

12. The heating system of Claim 11, wherein the mechanism for directing nested containers comprises a bristled brush.

13. The heating system of Claim 11, wherein the mechanism for directing nested containers comprises an air jet.

14. The heating system of Claim 11, wherein the mechanism for directing nested containers comprises an inclined surface utilizing gravity feed.

15. The heating system of Claim 1, wherein the heated air is at a temperature within the range of from about 400° to about 1,200° F.

16. The heating system of Claim 15, wherein the heated air is at a temperature within the range of from about 550° to about 600° F.

17. The heating system of Claim 1, further comprising a screw assembly for rolling lips of nested containers.

18. The heating system of Claim 17, wherein the screw assembly is positionally fixed about an opening through which the containers pass.